

Project Period	9/01/2013 - 8/31/2015
Project Location Description (from Proposal)	The Grenadines are a small string of islands south of St. Vincent and north of Grenada. These isolated islands have high biodiversity and endemism, and are especially vulnerable to climate effects.
Project Summary (from Proposal)	Build reef management capacity in the Grenada Bank by strengthening coral reef area networks through monitoring and evaluation, education outreach, and decision-making for sustained marine and coastal conservation.
Summary of Accomplishments	<p>Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and its partners were able to utilize the small grants funds to build reef management capacity in the Grenada Bank by strengthening coral reef area networks through monitoring & evaluation, education/outreach & enhanced decision-making for sustainable marine and coastal conservation.</p> <p>Small grants funds and collaborative efforts were used to address priority capacity building needs for site level management of MPAs in the Grenada bank and develop capacity among members of the Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas. At the network level, the Grenadines Network of MPAs was able to host two regional meetings for capacity building and networking, sponsor travel and accommodation for training attachment and exchange programs, and conduct/promote outreach efforts for public information and improved communication and networking opportunities. Individual members carried out activities agreed upon by the network through small grants funded through this project to address deficiencies in enforcement regimes and stakeholder compliance as well as biophysical monitoring and socioeconomic monitoring needs.</p> <p>The project brought together staff from a number of member groups, government agencies, communities and other stakeholders to improve and expand the impact of the network. This project contributed significantly to the foundation of collaborative, consistent management that was developed during Phase I of this project, and will have a lasting impact on the development of a resilient network of marine areas that are effectively managed, function effectively for community well-being and biodiversity protection, and act as a critical climate change response mechanism.</p>
Lessons Learned	<p>Communication SusGren found that communication via only method (e.g. skype calls, phone calls, email) was sometimes ineffective at effectively achieving consensus between the implementing agencies and consultants. Multiple media (e.g. Skype calls followed by meeting minutes and/or explicit terms of reference for work) were best able to reinforce ideas communicated in discussions.</p> <p>Geography SusGren and the TCMP are based on Union Island in the Grenadines, while the other MPAs are based on other islands across the Grenada Bank. The geographic distance makes collaboration somewhat more difficult, but is currently mitigated by regular Skype calls and constant email and telephone contact. The distance adds a significant cost in the form of travel and accommodation cost for meetings and collaborative activities.</p> <p>Timing of Disbursement of Funds The delay in project disbursement affected the project. We learned to pay attention to our request period for disbursement to ensure that disbursements arrive on time to ensure that we have monies on hand to implement activities when required.</p> <p>Delegation of responsibility The lead responsibility for coordination fell to SusGren. Varying levels of proactivity were experienced from partner organisations and consultants, with extensive follow-up being needed in some cases for reporting and even use of small grants funds within an acceptable time frame.</p> <p>In-kind contributions Many private and public sector organisations showed great interest in assisting Sustainable Grenadines</p>

and its partners with meeting the objectives of this project. Notable contributions include the donation of a 65-foot catamaran by Mr. Jean Marc Saily of Wind and Sea Ltd, and various contributions (including accommodation) by the Mustique Company to the 4th Annual GNMPA meeting.

Scheduling of activities

Unfortunately, the implementation of activities was bottlenecked by the unavailability of human resources and finances (due to the standing disbursal schedule), causing delays until human resources and funding were available. In cases where activities are being merged with deliverables from other grants or the initiatives of other organizations, deviation from the proposed implementation dates also occurred. This actually resulted in SusGren requesting an extension to the project deadline to facilitate implementation of all activities.

Activities and Outcomes

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required

Description

Capacity, Outreach, Incentives

Coral - Building institutional capacity - # FTE with sufficient training

Recommended

Enter the number of staff or full-time equivalents with sufficient training and skills engaged in conservation activities

# FTE with sufficient training - Current	0.00
# FTE with sufficient training - Grant Completion	34.00

Notes

The 28 participants of the fourth GNMPA meeting in June 2014 were exposed to AGRRA monitoring protocols, and participated in the establishment of a permanent monitoring site in Mustique.

Six representatives of the MPA management authorities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada were trained in AGRRA during a three day workshop in September 2014. This training was reinforced during a week long expedition in which they collected data from each of the six MPAs in the Grenadines Network of MPAs. These representatives were also taught how to construct AGRRA survey equipment.

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required

Description

Capacity, Outreach, Incentives

Coral - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached

Recommended

Enter the number of people reached by outreach, training, or technical assistance activities

# people reached - Current	20.00
# people reached - Grant Completion	200.00

Notes

Only six outreach activities were conducted under this grant; 50% of the number targeted. Minimal attendance quorum was met at each of these events. Good press coverage of the project's activities was achieved. Press releases have been distributed to local media, on SusGren's Facebook page and its quarterly newsletter regarding each project activity. The SusGren Yahoo list-serv, through which activity reports are distributed to stakeholders, is populated with over 200 members. SusGren's quarterly newsletter is distributed its board and GNMPA stakeholders (composed of stakeholders from both Grenada and St. Vincent), to the public via Facebook, and to the wider scientific community through the CaMPAM list-serv. The board also received monthly reports on project activities. A number of articles on project activities have been published in the Compass Sea and Shores Magazine. Radio interviews with the project consultant and SusGren staff have been recorded by the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) after each of the Grenadines Network of MPA Meetings, as well as the Transboundary Expedition. Reports were distributed to stakeholders following each activity.

Lessons learned were incorporated into the reports on individual activities. Educational materials were produced as necessary for each outreach session, rather than on a bimonthly basis. Through

these myriad avenues, the project has attained high regional visibility and impact, and fostered constructive relationships between the MPAs and stakeholders.

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required
Description

Planning, Research, Monitoring

Coral - Management or Governance Planning - # plan activities implemented

Recommended

Enter the number of management plan activities being implemented

# plan activities implemented - Current	4.00
# plan activities implemented - Grant Completion	12.00

Notes

An indeterminate number of management plan activities have been facilitated by this project, particularly in terms of stakeholder engagement, monitoring and enforcement. Each MPA is operating on their own work plans based on extensive management plans, and directly or indirectly, this project has allowed all six of them to implement activities encompassed by each of those three areas.

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required
Description

Planning, Research, Monitoring

Coral - Tool development for decision-making - # tools developed

Recommended

Enter the number of tools developed

# tools developed - Current	2.00
# tools developed - Grant Completion	9.00

Notes

After the biophysical monitoring of all six MPAs was completed in September 2014, Project Consultant Emma Doyle, in collaboration with Monitoring Coordinator Myles Phillips and Dr. Patricia Kramer of the Healthy Reefs Initiative commenced development of a number of tools to harmonize and enhance monitoring and evaluation throughout the Grenadines Network of MPAs in alignment with the Network Monitoring Framework adopted at the Fourth Annual GNMPA meeting in June 2014. The collection of the biophysical data allowed the GNMPA to set reef ecosystem condition baselines for all the MPAs in one year, and provided a pool of data on which to test the first iteration of the MPA monitoring framework. A number of edits were made, including the modification of metrics and targets, with input from stakeholders and international experts via Skype and email. The data was combined with the output of rigorous literature review and extensive stakeholder consultation to generate a number of communication and reference tools for management, including

- Indicator reference cards for managers based on the second iteration of the monitoring framework, with modified indicators, targets, metrics, background and best practices outlined on a single sheet
- The first ever collection of monitoring profiles for the Grenadines MPAs, outlining the monitoring framework and the progress of each MPA towards realizing its targets. The report includes relevant past and present management actions, statistics

where available, a list of references, and presents management recommendations for each MPA (in development)

- A series of reference posters indicating individual and overall management priorities for 2015-2016 (under review), intended to be used to communicate the challenges faced by each MPA and the Network overall.

These tools have not yet incorporated monitoring efforts in 2015.

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Habitat Management

Networking of MPAs in the Grenada Bank
-Number of MPAs networked

Required
Description

Grenada Network of MPAs extended from 4 MPAs to 6
Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Habitat Management

Networking of MPAs in the Grenada Bank-Total number of network activities (meetings, workshops, training,etc.)

Currently there have been 2 annual Network meetings. SusGren has secured funding for the 2013 meeting, and this grant would support 2 additional AGMs in 2014 and 2015.

Additionally this grant would support: 1 training attachment; 12 community outreach meetings (2 on each of the 6 populated Grenadines islands), a minimum of 10 remote network meetings (phone or Skype conferences)

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Capacity, Outreach, Incentives

Plan, organize and hold MPA network meeting- Number of workshops held

1 workshop to be held during 2014. An additional workshop will be supported through a separate grant obtained by Sustainable Grenadines Inc. during 2013.

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy

Capacity, Outreach, Incentives

Activity / Outcome	Plan, organize and hold MPA network meeting- Total number of workshop participants
Required Description	Budget has been designed to support 21 attendees. Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives MPA managers effectively communicating, and exchanging information- Number network tools established
Required Description	SusGren will coordinated 4 annual remote Network meetings (using Skype), totaling 9 during the project life cycle. 6 lesson learned documents to be produced by Small Grant Program award winners. SusGren will coordinate the publication and distribution of a minimum of 7 communications pieces, communicating Network status and progress to members. Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring In-depth review of existing MPA monitoring and evaluation efforts- Number of MPAs reviewed
Required Description	6 MPA monitoring and evaluation programs to be reviewed. Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Development of harmonized work plans- Number of harmonized work plans developed
Required Description	6 individual work plans to be developed (for 4 existing Network MPAs, and 2 anticipated Network MPAs). Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Lessons learned documented for sharing among network-
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Required Description	Number of documents produced and disseminated -6 lessons learned documents to be produced through Small Grant Program. 5 lessons learned documents to be authored by SusGren based on: outcomes of 2014 and 2015 Network Meetings (2), training attachment, community outreach meeting series 1 and 2. To be disseminated to, Network MPA staff, relevant government departments in SVG and Grenada, SusGren mailing list, community contact list, etc.
Other Metric - Description	Optional Other Metric
Notes	N/A

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Detailed tracking of networking activities and collaborative efforts of network- Number of reports completed and circulated
Required Description	Reports to be authored and circulated after: Annual Network Meetings in 2014 and 2015 (2), training attachment, community meeting series 1 and 2 (2), and biannually during project life-cycle (5). This would make a total of 10 reports. Reports are meant to update project partners and other stakeholders on the projects accomplishments, status and next steps, etc.
Other Metric - Description	Optional Other Metric
Notes	N/A

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Creation of a harmonized MPA monitoring and evaluation protocol- Number of guides distributed
Required Description	Guides to be distributed to management and staff of 6 MPAs (4 current Network MPAs and 2 anticipated Network MPAs)
Other Metric - Description	Optional Other Metric
Notes	N/A

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Creation of a harmonized MPA monitoring and evaluation protocol- Number of stakeholders contributed to development
Required	In order to produce a protocol that is effective and appropriate for use across the Network, a collaborative approach to design will be taken. A min. of 2 representatives from each Network MPA, a min. of 1 representative from Grenada and a SVG government and other NGOs/institutions will be invited to participate in this process. It is expected 20 people will participate overall.
	Optional

Description	Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Increased outreach and awareness among stakeholders- Number of outreach meetings held 6 meeting during 2014; 6 meetings during 2015
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Increased outreach and awareness of stakeholders- Number of participants at each meeting Target participation is a min. of 20 participating at each meeting, for a total of 120 from 6 island meetings
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Increased outreach and awareness of stakeholders- Number of stakeholders added to e-mail distribution list/list-serve Target 100 new stakeholders added to distribution list in 2014, and and addition 100 in 2015
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Implementation of biophysical monitoring- Number of monitoring sessions at each MPA 1 session held per MPA during 2013 portion of project (6); 2 sessions held per MPA in 2014 (12); 1 session held per MPA in 2015 (6). Total of 24 individual sessions held during full project lifecycle.
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Planning, Research, Monitoring

Implementation of biophysical monitoring- Monitoring results evaluated and disseminated

Monitoring results compiled, analyzed, reported on and disseminated after each series of monitoring sessions- 1 session in 2013, 2 sessions in 2014 and 1 sessions in 2015.

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Habitat Conservation

Implementation of biophysical monitoring- Number of MPAs conducting monitoring

Increase from 4 current Network MPAs to 6 MPAs participating

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Planning, Research, Monitoring

Implementation of socioeconomic monitoring- Number of monitoring sessions at each MPA

One monitoring session during 2014 and 1 during 2015. To be undertaken by CERMES, with support and coordination by SusGren and the Grenadines Network of MPAs.

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy
Activity / Outcome

Planning, Research, Monitoring

Implementation of socioeconomic monitoring- Number of MPAs conducting monitoring

Increase from 4 current to 6 Network MPAs conducting socioeconomic monitoring

Required
Description

Optional
Other Metric

Other Metric - Description

N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Planning, Research, Monitoring Implementation of socioeconomic monitoring- Evaluation and dissemination of results
Required Description	Results compiled, analyzed, reported on and distributed after 2014 and 2015 monitoring sessions. Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Circulate small grant request for proposals- Number of small grant proposals received Min. 6 Small Grant application anticipated
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Small Grant project implementation- Number of projects completed with reports submitted 6 projects completed with reports submitted by early 2015
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Shared education materials developed for outreach program- Number of products produced New educational materials to be developed bimonthly, for a min. total of 12 during the project life-cycle; 2 additional educational packages to be developed for community outreach meetings.
Required Description	Optional Other Metric
Other Metric - Description	N/A
Notes	
Funding Strategy Activity / Outcome	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives Site level capacity building through training attachment- Number of participants in attachment
Required Description	Budget provides for 15 attachment participants Optional Other Metric

Other Metric - Description N/A

Notes

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required

Description

Habitat Management

AMOY - improved management practices - Acres under improved management (indirectly through capacity, outreach or incentives)

Optional

Enter the number of acres under improved management

Acres under improved management - Current 18500

Acres under improved management - Grant Completion 20000

Notes

Numbers approximated based on size of network MPAs, some gaps in data currently exist.

Current Network MPAs cover: Moliniere-Beausejour 149 Acres, Sandy Island Oyster Bed 1945 acres, Tobago Cays Marine Park 16,309 acres, Mustique unknown

MPAs to join Network through this project include South Coast MPA (SVG) and Woburn Clarks court Bay MPA (GR), the exact additional area that these MPAs would cover has yet to be reported

Funding Strategy

Activity / Outcome

Required

Description

Habitat Management

AMOY - improved management practices - Acres under improved management

Optional

Enter the number of acres under improved management

Acres under improved management - Current 18500

Acres under improved management - Grant Completion 20000

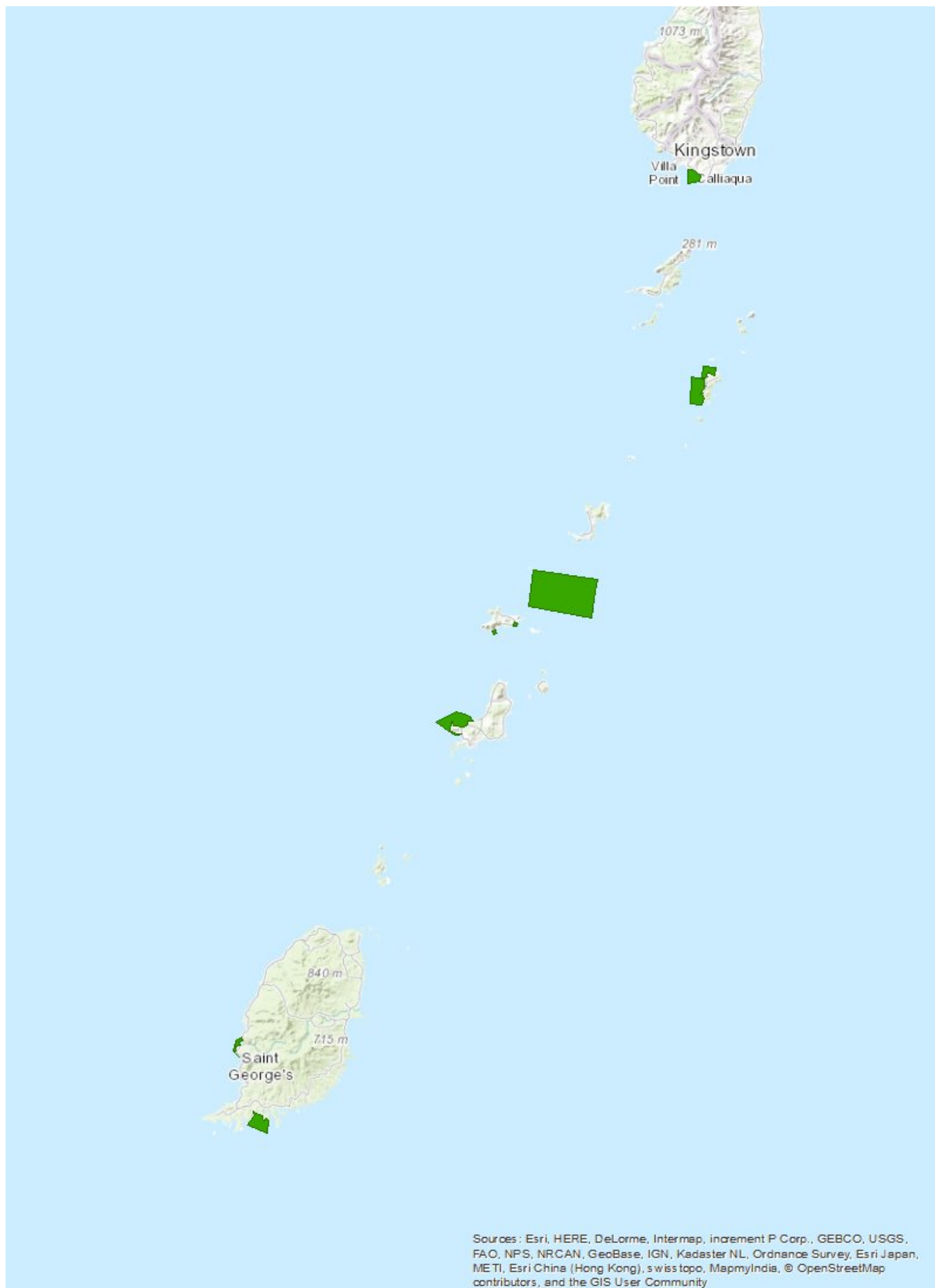
Notes

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Show Map Below



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The following pages contain the uploaded documents, in the order shown below, as provided by the grantee:

Upload Type	File Name	Uploaded By	Uploaded Date
Final Report Narrative - Marine	Final Report Narrative Template - Marine Programs 20150108.pdf	Phillips, Myles	01/08/2016
Photos - Jpeg	2015 GNMPA Network Meeting E Doyle.jpg	Phillips, Myles	10/15/2015
Photos - Jpeg	2014 AGGRA Monitoring Team - M Lewis.JPG	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Photos - Jpeg	2013 GNMPA Network Meeting - M. Barriteau.JPG	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Photos - Jpeg	2013 - Mustique Exchange Lionfish Event - D Jack.jpg	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Photos - Jpeg	2013 - Mustique Mooring Installation Exchange - D Jack.jpg	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	Fourth Annual GNMPA Meeting - Mustique Island 2014.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	Press Release 2014 Networking Meeting Grenadines.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	TCMP Turtle Monitoring Press Release Draft final.docx	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	SCMCA SGP - Press Release.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	SCMMA NFWF Training Report Final.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	GMMA NFWF Training Report 2015.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	Enforcement Training Workshop Report.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	2015 GNMPA Meeting - AGGRA Monitoring Results - Myles Phillips.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	October 14th, 2013 Press Release - Mustique Exchange Visit.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	Ready Set Nest for Compass.pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015
Other Documents	Press Release - Network Monitoring (June 2015).pdf	Phillips, Myles	10/16/2015

The following uploads do not have the same headers and footers as the previous sections of this document in order to preserve the integrity of the actual files uploaded.

Final Programmatic Report Narrative

Project: Strengthening Reef Management in the Grenada Bank – Phase II

Project Lifespan: 09/01/ 2013 - 05/31/ 2015

Easysgrants ID: 38894

Implementing Organization: Sustainable Grenadines Inc. (SusGren)

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed ten (10) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the online final programmatic report task as instructed. **Please note** that this narrative will be made available on NFWF's Grants Library and therefore should provide brief context for the need of your project and should not contain unexplained terms or acronyms.

1. Summary of Accomplishments

Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and its partners were able to utilize the small grants funds to build reef management capacity in the Grenada Bank by strengthening coral reef area networks through monitoring & evaluation, education/outreach & enhanced decision-making for sustainable marine and coastal conservation.

Small grants funds and collaborative efforts were used to address priority capacity building needs for site level management of MPAs in the Grenada Bank and develop capacity among members of the Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Area (GNMPA). At the network level, the Grenadines Network of MPAs was able to host three regional meetings for capacity building and networking, sponsor travel and accommodation for training attachment and exchange programs, and conduct/promote outreach efforts for public information and improved communication and networking opportunities. Individual members carried out activities agreed upon by the network through small grants funded through this project to address deficiencies in enforcement regimes and stakeholder compliance as well as biophysical monitoring and socioeconomic monitoring needs.

The project brought together staff from a number of member groups, government agencies, communities and other stakeholders to improve and expand the impact of the network. This project contributed significantly to the foundation of collaborative, consistent management that was developed during Phase I of this project, and will have a lasting impact on the development of a resilient network of marine areas that are effectively managed, function effectively for community well-being and biodiversity protection, and act as a critical climate change response mechanism.

Notes:

- a) It must be noted that the first disbursement of funding was not made during the first reporting period. However, Sustainable Grenadines proceeded with the implementation of activities in support of project objectives using other sources of funding in the interim.
- b) SusGren requested a 3 month extension to the project, extending the end-date of the project from May 31, 2015 to August 31, 2015 in order to facilitate implementation of activities after the proposed project deadline. This extension was requested for a number of reasons including availability of the participating MPAs, availability of workshop facilitators, and other activities planned in the prior months by key stakeholders. Activities carried out during this extension period are listed below:
 - 5th Annual Grenadines MPA Network Meeting
 - Community Meeting with Fishers
 - Communication and Education Material
 - MPA Enforcement Training Attachment

2. Project Activities & Outcomes

Activities

- Describe the primary activities conducted during this grant and explain any discrepancies between the activities conducted from those that were proposed.

Outcomes

- Describe progress towards achieving the project outcomes as proposed and briefly explain any discrepancies between your results compared to what was anticipated.
- Provide any further information (such as unexpected outcomes) important for understanding project activities and outcome results.

2.1 Grenadines Network of MPA Annual Meetings/Workshops (Networking of Regional MPAs)

Rationale: This project would see that the Grenadines Network of MPAs receives the support and coordination needed for it to continue functioning, as well as expand this network from 4 to 6 MPAs, adding the South Coast MPA of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Woburn/ Clark's Court Bay MPA of Grenada. One of the recommendations from Phase 1 of the project was that an appropriate group assume a coordinating role for future annual meetings and training attachments. The annual network meeting is essential for providing a forum for face-to-face collaboration and information sharing. The meeting will bring together MPA staff, government representative and other key stakeholders for networking meetings in 2014 and 2015. Topics at the workshops will include sharing progress and lessons learned in relation to MPA enforcement, the harmonization of monitoring and evaluation activities, discussion of effective management actions, assessment of MPA strengths and weaknesses and an opportunity discuss issues, tactics, and lessons learned. Review of work plans and reporting of results from prior network activities will be conducted to allow for coordinated management efforts across the network. Topics at the workshops will include sharing progress and lessons learned in relation to MPA enforcement, the harmonization of monitoring and evaluation activities, discussion of effective management actions, assessment of MPA strengths and weaknesses and an opportunity discuss issues, tactics, and lessons learned. Review of work plans and reporting of results from prior network activities will be conducted to allow for coordinated management efforts across the network.

Relevant Objectives/Metrics:

- Three Network Meetings funded
- Total number of workshop participants (21 per meeting)
- 1 training attachment; 12 community outreach meetings (2 on each of the 6 populated Grenadines islands), a minimum of 10 remote network meetings (phone or Skype conferences).
- Number of MPAs networked: 6 MPAs

Outcomes:

One Network meeting was held per year in 2013, 2014 (28 participants) and 2015 (30 participants). Training attachments were built into the multi-day conference proceedings, and are described below, while community outreach activities have been listed in the community outreach section of this report. The official expansion of the Network from four to six MPAs (Moliniere Beausejour MPA, Sandy Island Oyster Bed MPA, Tobago Cays Marine Park, Woburn-Clarks Court MPA, with Mustique Marine Conservation Area and South Coast Marine Conservation Area being the newest joining members) occurred in 2013. Remote meetings took place frequently throughout the year regarding the networking meetings and in pursuit of network level initiatives, including the development of a harmonized monitoring framework and associated reference materials.

Third Annual Meeting of the Grenadines Network of MPAs

Funding (US\$20,000.00) was provided by the Organization of American States (OAS) Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) Project through The Ocean Foundation (TOF). The meeting, entitled "Sharing Best Management Practices for Coral Reef and Mangrove Conservation in the Grenadines" was held in Hillsborough, Carriacou, Grenada on August 28th – 30th, 2013. A number of activities were carried out as part of the proceedings, including:

- *Mangrove Identification and Sensitization Training*

A mangrove in-house training session was conducted during the workshop and participants were taken to the Tyrell Bay Marina where they received the opportunity to learn about their ecological importance and observe mangrove identification methods.

- *MPA Enforcement Workshop*

See below (MPA Enforcement Activities)

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- Outreach and education demonstration activities with the meeting participants and a group of 10-12 year olds (see also photos and press article from Caribbean Compass about the activity).

Fourth Annual Meeting of the Grenadines Network of MPAs

The meeting was held on the island of Mustique, St Vincent and the Grenadines June 11th – 15th, 2014. Representatives of the six MPAs, government agencies, academics and Marine Protected Area (MPA) experts from regional and international agencies attended the meeting, plus an observer from non-member Petit St. Vincent Resort. The meeting was facilitated by SusGren with support from MPA expert Ann-Marie Hoffman representing The Nature Conservancy (TNC) of the U.S Virgin Islands, Clare Morrall of St. George's University (SGU), Grenada, Emma Doyle of Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), coral reef expert Patricia Kramer of the Atlantic-Gulf and Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRRA) program and Socioeconomic Monitoring (SocMon) expert Maria Pena of the Centre for Environment and Resource Studies (CERMES). There were a total of 28 participants in attendance.

The meeting focused on MPA monitoring and identified monitoring needs common across the network and most pressing for each MPA. The meeting participants agreed upon a minimum framework for MPA monitoring and agreed upon protocols to apply for measurement. Field visits and training sessions included water quality, mangrove, bird and coral reef monitoring and training; visits to the island's waste water treatment and solid waste management plants; a mooring installation guided tour; a session on addressing marine debris and nightly sea turtle patrols with the Mustique Turtle Conservation Group.

Fifth Annual Meeting of the Grenadines Network of MPAs

The 5th Annual Meeting of the Grenadines Network of MPAs was held from June 15-17 2015 in Ashton, Union Island, and was attended by marine park staff, government and non-government representatives, and media representatives from both St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada. Communication and Outreach was the main theme of the workshop, which focused on the use of various forms of media to communicate with stakeholders, other MPAs and youth in order to enhance MPA effectiveness. Members of the media from St. Vincent, the Grenadines and mainland Grenada were invited to present on effective communication via radio, print media and television outreach.

The participants reviewed the findings of the coral reef research expedition conducted by a transboundary team of MPA representatives from Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines in September 2014. The member MPAs also presented on their activities during the year June 2014 – June 2015, including activities conducted using NFWF small grant funds disbursed to them in 2014. Project consultant Emma Doyle and Monitoring Coordinator Myles Phillips presented the tools in development to enhance monitoring and evaluation in the MPAs, in keeping with the outcomes of the 4th Annual Meeting in June 2014.

2.2 MPA Enforcement

Activity Rationale: Capacity building for improved MPA enforcement will be achieved through multiple project activities; network meeting will provide follow-up training and sharing of lessons learned. Several of the Network MPAs (SIOBMPA, MBMPA, TCMP) participated in the GCFI/NOAA CRCP 'Peer-to-Peer Workshop on Building Compliance and Enhancing Enforcement for Caribbean MPAs' held in Florida Keys in August 2012, and will have the opportunity to share this information with other network MPAs. Training attachments will also build on the NFWF project 'Strengthening Grenada's MPA Enforcement Capacity' and in particular the enforcement training held in April 2013." MPAs also have the opportunity to submit small grant proposals for projects that address enforcement capacity.

Relevant Objectives/Metrics:

Outcomes:

Third MPA Networking Meeting: MPA Enforcement Workshop (2013)

The Royal Grenada Police Force was represented at the meeting, and conducted a practical session on enforcement training for the 28 participants.

Enforcement ride-along at the Mustique Mooring Installation Exchange - Oct 1st-3rd 2013

The four visitors, representing the Tobago Cays Marine Park, Sandy Island Oyster Bed MPA and Moliniere Beausejour MPA took part in land and sea patrols with Mustique's security team and assisted with the inspection and unloading of a fuel tanker. This was an opportunity to share common challenges in MPA and fisheries enforcement. It was also an opportunity to network with the Mustique security team, which is responsible for MPA and fisheries enforcement for MMCA. The security team staff have professional backgrounds in law enforcement and police/military/coast guard training.

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Climate-Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas Network (ECMMAN) Enforcement Capacity Building Workshop

From May 12th – 17th, veteran United States protected areas enforcement officer Jayson Horadam of MPA Enforcement International began a five day workshop for TCMP, intended to train the rangers in best practices for effectively enforcing the rules and regulations of their Marine Protected Areas. The workshop was also attended by marine park rangers from mainland St. Vincent, Carriacou and Grenada, the St. Vincent Coast Guard and representatives of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, resulting in a number of constructive dialogues between enforcement agencies. Representatives of the Police Force and Coast Guard also made themselves available to conduct classroom sessions on safety, evidence collection and presentation. The workshop was attended by 19 participants.

At the end of the workshop, the rangers had been exposed to sessions on interacting with the public, detecting violations, proper report writing, surveillance techniques, vessel boarding and search, safety at sea, evidence collection and case package preparation. The rangers undertook field exercises and simulations daily, progressively incorporating the subject matter. This activity was funded primarily through small grants funds under the Climate Resilient Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Areas (ECMMAN) Project, with co-funding through NFWF small grants assigned to Sustainable Grenadines Inc. and MPA Enforcement International.

All the MPAs have increased exposure to practical issues surrounding effective enforcement of MPAs, as well as best practices, necessary skills and partnerships for carrying out relevant tasks. The MPAs have taken steps to improve enforcement by modifying patrol patterns and stakeholder engagement paradigms, upgrading uniforms and equipment, and incorporating communication best practices into their work plans in order to increase stakeholder compliance and trust. With gap assessments and recommendations accrued over the course of this project, funding will be sought to furnish the MPAs with better enforcement infrastructure to facilitate increased ranger presence/stakeholder compliance.

2.3 Harmonization of Monitoring and Evaluation Protocols/Compilation of MPA monitoring data

Activity Rationale: The aim of this activity is to build on initial work harmonizing monitoring and evaluation protocols used by network MPAs, ensure that those MPAs with no monitoring protocols put one into use and that MPAs implement a harmonized monitoring and evaluation program across the Network. Harmonization will help to improve the management effectiveness and level of collaboration among network members. The harmonized monitoring and evaluation protocol will address both biophysical and socioeconomic monitoring, and will build off SusGren's former project, which included training in biophysical monitoring methods (Reef Check). SocMon has been identified as an appropriate socioeconomic protocol, and will allow for synergies with existing regional monitoring and training efforts conducted by CERMES.

Relevant Objectives/Metrics:

- Creation of a harmonized MPA monitoring and evaluation protocol
 - Number of guides distributed. Guides to be distributed to management and staff of 6 MPAs (4 current Network MPAs and 2 anticipated Network MPAs).
 - Number of stakeholders contributing to development. A min. of 2 representatives from each Network MPA, a min. of 1 representative from Grenada and a SVG government and other NGOs/institutions will be invited to participate in this process. It is expected 20 people will participate overall.
- Number of harmonized work plans developed (6 individual work plans to be developed (for 4 existing Network MPAs, and 2 anticipated Network MPAs)
- Number of management plan activities implemented (12)
- Number of management tools developed (5)
- Implementation of biophysical monitoring- Monitoring results evaluated and disseminated. Monitoring results compiled, analyzed, reported on and disseminated after each series of monitoring sessions- 1 session in 2013, 2 sessions in 2014 and 1 sessions in 2015.
- In-depth review of existing MPA monitoring and evaluation efforts- Number of MPAs reviewed. 6 MPA monitoring and evaluation programs to be reviewed.

Outcomes:

Development of the Monitoring Framework for the Grenadines Network of MPAs

In 2013, Project Consultant Emma Doyle and SusGren staff conceptualized a matrix which would act as a template of the desired biophysical, socioeconomic and administrative information to be collected at the six MPAs of the Grenadines Network. The information

gathered would then be used as a basis for examination of existing data and management gaps, as well as for prioritization of focus for capacity building at the annual networking meetings and pursuit of small grant funding.

At the 2014 meeting in Mustique all 28 participants contributed to the development of the monitoring and evaluation protocol with a focus on the Atlantic/Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRRA) protocol for biophysical monitoring, and the SocMon Caribbean protocol for socioeconomic monitoring. Participants got the opportunity to learn the fundamentals associated with the protocols and to use what they learned in the field. The MPAs adopted the framework of harmonized monitoring indicators and received basic information on the recommended socioeconomic and biophysical monitoring methodologies.

While work plans were not developed for each MPA at the network level, the managers were encouraged to use the Monitoring Framework to guide design of their work plans at the MPA level. The number of stakeholders which contributed to development of the Framework far exceeded the stipulated lower limits.

Implementation of the Monitoring Framework for the Grenadines Network of MPAs

After the biophysical monitoring of all six MPAs was completed in September 2014, Project Consultant Emma Doyle, in collaboration with Monitoring Coordinator Myles Phillips and Dr. Patricia Kramer of the Healthy Reefs Initiative commenced development of a number of tools to harmonize and enhance monitoring and evaluation throughout the Grenadines Network of MPAs in alignment with the Network Monitoring Framework adopted at the Fourth Annual GNMPA meeting in June 2014. The collection of the biophysical data allowed the GNMPA to set reef ecosystem condition baselines for all the MPAs in one year, and provided a pool of data on which to test the first iteration of the MPA monitoring framework. A number of edits were made, including the modification of metrics and targets, with input from stakeholders and international experts via Skype and email. The data was combined with the output of rigorous literature review and extensive stakeholder consultation to generate a number of communication and reference tools for management, including

- Indicator reference cards for managers based on the second iteration of the monitoring framework, with modified indicators, targets, metrics, background and best practices outlined on a single sheet
- The first ever collection of monitoring profiles for the Grenadines MPAs, outlining the monitoring framework and the progress of each MPA towards realizing its targets. The report includes relevant past and present management actions, statistics where available, a list of references, and presents management recommendations for each MPA (in development)
- A series of reference posters indicating individual and overall management priorities for 2015-2016 (under review), intended to be used to communicate the challenges faced by each MPA and the Network overall.

These tools have not yet incorporated monitoring efforts in 2015. In addition, review of the effectiveness of the monitoring framework has highlighted a number of institutional and logistical gaps which need to be filled before harmonization can be fully effected.

In most of the MPAs, monitoring activities are not included in operational costs, and are carried out using grant funding from external sources. This sometimes leaves them in the position where they must choose between prioritizing the allocation of funds to monitoring or other management needs. Insufficient funding for monitoring programs causes monitoring to remain ad hoc.

There is also a need for harmonization of MPA capacity building and monitoring schedules. The MPAs still act independently, conducting their activities on their own schedules. However, this limits the effectiveness of collaborative efforts, as differing human resource and financial availability stymy ad hoc attempts to bring management staff together. A calendar of monitoring activities at the Network level could allow timely pursuit and/or dedication of resources to regular site-level (where required) and Network activities and facilitate training and exchange opportunities. Sustainable Grenadines Inc. is a key partner to the GNMPA in terms of securing funding for MPA operations, and the implementation of such a program would fall under the portfolio of their Marine Protected Area Coordinator. This Network level calendar and work plan would lend itself towards an enhanced administrative structure for the Grenadines Network of MPAs. Other needs include: Employing more accessible targets and useful metrics; Increasing the number of full time staff with monitoring capacity.

2.4 Community Outreach Program (Education and Awareness)

Activity Rationale: Community support is essential for the success of MPAs in meeting their objectives, and the lack of stakeholder support for MPAs in the Grenada bank continues to threaten their effectiveness. All of the network MPAs face challenges in building compliance, and the majority of people in the Grenadines lack awareness of the important role MPAs play in sustainable resource management. Past work by SusGren have revealed specific tactics for outreach programming, which are desired by community

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members themselves. Predominantly community members want to be engaged in person from the onset and through the duration of projects. In response to this our Community Outreach Program will include a series of community meetings, to be conducted on each of the islands. By hosting meetings on individual islands it will increase community members' ability to attend, and allow for more tailored discussions. These meetings will create a forum for discussion among all stakeholders, and allow for information sharing in a comfortable, welcoming setting. There will be the opportunity to invite MPA staff, government representatives and other key players to help develop social networks between stakeholders.

Relevant Metric (Goal):

- # outreach meetings held: 6 meetings during 2014; 6 meetings during 2015
- # of participants at each meeting. Target participation is a min. of 20 participating at each meeting, for a total of 120 from 6 island meetings.
- Reports are meant to update project partners and other stakeholders on the projects accomplishments, status and next steps, etc. Reports to be authored and circulated after:
 - Annual Network Meetings in 2014 and 2015 (2),
 - training attachment,
 - community meeting series 1 and 2 (2),
 - biannually during project life-cycle (5).
- # of "lessons learned" documents produced and disseminated to Network MPA staff, relevant government departments in SVG and Grenada, SusGren mailing list, community contact list, etc.
 - 6 through Small Grant Program.
 - 5 lessons learned documents to be authored by SusGren based on:
 - outcomes of 2014 and 2015 Network Meetings (2)
 - training attachment
 - community outreach meeting series 1 and 2.
- Shared education materials developed for outreach program - Number of products produced. New educational materials to be developed bimonthly, for a min. total of 12 during the project life-cycle; 2 additional educational packages to be developed for community outreach meetings.
- # stakeholders added to e-mail distribution list/list-serve. Target 100 new stakeholders added to distribution list in 2014, and an additional 100 in 2015

Outcomes:

Only six outreach activities were conducted under this grant; 50% of the number targeted. Minimal attendance quorum was met at each of these events. Good press coverage of the project's activities was achieved. Press releases have been distributed to local media, on SusGren's Facebook page and its quarterly newsletter regarding each project activity. The SusGren Yahoo list-serv, through which activity reports are distributed to stakeholders, is populated with over 200 members. SusGren's quarterly newsletter is distributed its board and GNMPA stakeholders (composed of stakeholders from both Grenada and St. Vincent), to the public via Facebook, and to the wider scientific community through the CaMPAM list-serv. The board also received monthly reports on project activities. A number of articles on project activities have been published in the Compass Sea and Shores Magazine. Radio interviews with the project consultant and SusGren staff have been recorded by the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) after each of the Grenadines Network of MPA Meetings, as well as the Transboundary Expedition. Reports were distributed to stakeholders following each activity.

Lessons learned were incorporated into the reports on individual activities. Educational materials were produced as necessary for each outreach session, rather than on a bimonthly basis. Through these myriad avenues, the project has attained high regional visibility and impact, and fostered constructive relationships between the MPAs and stakeholders.

Outreach Meetings/Activities

- *Mustique Fishers Meeting (2014)*

During the planning of the fourth meeting on Mustique, SusGren had discussions with the management of the Mustique Marine Conservation Area (MMCA) who expressed their frustration with local fishers not abiding by the rules of fishing etc. in the non-designated areas among other issues. As a result SusGren was asked to assist them in addressing this matter during the meeting. SusGren agreed and decided to hold a meeting with the fishers exclusive of officials from the MMCA. SusGren along with other key workshop participants met with the fishers at their complex and listened in on their concerns they had with the company and how the company's restrictions on certain fishing areas have been affecting their livelihoods among other challenges. SusGren and other workshop participants offered advice and promised that their concerns would be presented to the company. In following up with this,

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SusGren held a short meeting with Security Director - Simon Humphrey and presented the concerns of the fishers. Mr. Humphrey promised that these concerns will be brought to the MMCA.

- *Lionfish Training and Community Demonstrations (2013, 2014)*

During the 2013 GNMPA conference, for the first time, local fishers, chefs and school children were significant beneficiaries of the networking meeting and its associated training. MPA officials, fishers and community members were trained in the capturing, handling and culinary preparation of lionfish. This effort was replicated during the 2014 meeting in Mustique.

- *–Series of Demonstrations of MPA Education Activities (2013)*

After sharing about MPA education programmes in other parts of the Caribbean region and discussing local needs in the network meeting, the meeting participants spent a morning implementing a series of practical education activities with a group of 20 local children aged 10-12 years. The group was organized by KIDO Foundation from Carriacou who also assisted with supervision of the children. Through these demonstration activities, the park rangers learned some background, ideas and gained experience on how to fulfill their role as educators about their MPA, inspiring local children them to know and understand the marine environment, to respect the role of the park ranger, to act responsibly. The activities drew from existing educational materials provided by WIDECAS, the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network, Birds Caribbean and the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance.

- *Primary School Session (2014)*

During the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Grenadines Network of MPAs we had 20 students visit over a two day period from the Mustique Primary School to learn about what we were involved in. The students were taught how they can participate in reducing marine litter, turtle conservation and the importance of corals and certain fish species.

- *Union Island Fisher's Meeting (2015)*

Project Consultant Emma Doyle engaged fishers and the attendees of the 5th Annual Grenadines Network of MPAs with a presentation on the Sargassum weed. She explained theories on the causes of the blooms and described attempts from across the Gulf and Caribbean Region to adapt to the outbreak. The fishers volunteered their experiences and local knowledge, and received information on potential strategies for overcoming obstacles presented by the Sargassum to their livelihoods.

Publications

SusGren's MPA Networking Initiative was published in the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas publication "Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines No. 23 - Transboundary Conservation: A systematic and integrated approach" as a contribution to a chapter on developing and refining the cooperative management framework for implementation of trans-boundary conservation initiatives. SusGren's abstract is entitled, "**The Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas; an example of civil society leadership in trans-boundary conservation**". The book was launched at the World Parks Congress in Australia, November 2014.

Monitoring Coordinator Myles Phillips presented findings to the 68th Conference of the Gulf and Fisheries Institute on "the condition of coral reefs across two countries and six biologically-connected MPAs and highlighted lessons learned for MPA management in this and other locations in the Caribbean." The presentation will also be published as a paper titled "**Transboundary Monitoring in the Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas**" in the Proceedings of the 68th GCFI.

With co-funding from USAID and others, SusGren prepared summary posters highlighting key findings from MPA monitoring were developed for the network as a whole and for each MPA. These represented an innovative approach to communications, seeking to highlight key results and appropriate adaptive management actions.

Press Coverage of the Fourth (2014) and Fifth (2015) Annual Networking Meeting

The following were some of the communication and outreach activities:

- Press Releases: At least eight press releases were disseminated to media outlets on both St Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada related to the events surrounding the annual networking meetings.
- Television: One television report was produced and aired in Grenada.
- Radio Interviews: Three radio interviews were conducted during the networking meeting by two participants and the project consultant. Two radio interviews were aired on the National Broadcasting Corporation - SVG and one on the Grenada end Vibes FM 101.3.

2.5 Training Attachments

Activity Rationale: Training attachments and exchange visits will build site level capacity for effective MPA management. Attachments will focus on training that will strengthen enforcement capacity, monitoring and evaluation, strengthening stakeholder awareness and understanding of MPAs, water quality monitoring, and fisherfolk support of MPAs. MPA staff will have the opportunity to travel to sites that have expertise in each of these areas and receive training that they can bring back to their respective MPAs.

Relevant Metrics:

- Area under improved management: Increase from four to six MPAs benefitting from capacity building under GNMPA
- # FTE with sufficient training (15)
- Site level capacity building through training attachment- Number of participants in Attachment Budget provides for 15 attachment participants

Outcomes:

Acres under improved management has increased with the growth of the GNMPA from four to six MPAs. The number of full time staff of local management partners who have received training in enforcement and other areas (described below) under this project far exceeds 15, with 19 participants for the enforcement training alone.

Mooring Installation and Maintenance Exchange in Mustique – October 1st – 3rd, 2013

This visit focused on learning about standard operating procedures for the maintenance of fixed moorings, and the visitors worked side-by-side with Mustique's Harbour Master, both above and below water, to inspect and repair existing moorings and to install new mooring equipment. The three participants from the other MPAs learned about the optimal frequency of maintenance, key issues and mooring quality concerns. Sandy Island/Oyster Bed MPA has since drafted standard operating procedures for mooring maintenance. Press note was released by TCMP about their participation in the exchange and subsequent installation of new moorings. A press note was released by TCMP about their participation in the exchange and subsequent installation of new moorings.

Replication of lionfish training and community demonstration

During the Mustique Mooring exchange visit there was a further briefing by Orlando Harvey, Manager of SIOBMPA about the lionfish invasion, biology and theories of capture and handling. The visitors then accompanied local staff in the field for a lionfish capture dive. Afterwards, the team gave a demonstration at the fish market about the handling and cleaning of lionfish, and answered questions from the audience of some 50 fishers and chefs about topics including edibility and first aid.

Mustique Moorings to Moliniere-Beausejour MPA, Grenada – November 23- 25, 2013)

This visit included the inspection of Moliniere-Beausejour moorings by Mr. Berris Little of Mustique Moorings, and local rangers Mr. Cecil McQueen and Mr. McKell Frank. Mr. Little joined the rangers for a dive on the reef and inspected moorings in Flamingo Bay and Dragon Bay. He also had the chance to inspect the sculpture garden and was present during patrol and fee collection with the MPA staff. As a result of this inspection several recommendations were put forth to build the capacity of the MPA field staff.

Transboundary Monitoring Expedition

Six MPA wardens from the GNMPA took part in a joint training / attachment on monitoring coral reef health using the AGGRA protocol. The activity was held in Grenada from September 25th – October 3rd, 2014. Wardens/Ranger got the opportunity to be trained in both classroom and field. After this exercise, all wardens had to opportunity to visit each other's MPA and establish permanent monitoring sites (survey sites) during a regional trans-boundary reef monitoring expedition that took place from October 4th – 8th, 2014.

Enforcement Capacity Building Workshop

The attendance of the four representatives of other regional marine parks at the TCMP enforcement capacity building workshop was made possible through training attachment funding under the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation small grant project "Strengthening Reef Management in the Grenada Bank – Phase II". This funding covered the cost of their travel, accommodation and meals for the five day workshop.

2.6 Small Grant Program (SGP)

Activity Rationale: Eligibility will be specific to the 6 regional MPAs identified in this proposal, with each site eligible for one grant. Grants will be announced at the beginning of the project and sites will be invited to submit proposals. The grant size is \$4000.00 USD for a period of 1 year. Specific grant criteria will be developed and made available with the request for proposals. Focus areas will include enforcement, biophysical and socioeconomic monitoring. SGP projects should relate to one of the priority areas identified in the CRCP/CaMPAM Capacity Assessment, as will be articulated in the grant criteria. Successful applicants will be required to submit a

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project report, and share their lessons learned at the annual network meeting. They will also be required to submit information for use in communications materials (e.g. press releases) coordinated by SusGren.

Relevant Metrics:

small grant proposals received (6)

Small Grant project implementation- Number of projects completed with reports submitted. 6 projects completed with reports submitted by early 2015

Outcomes:

Development Phase:

SusGren staff liaised with project consultant Emma Doyle through Skype calls to discuss the small grant program (SGP) component of the project. It was decided that the major focus of the project would be on MPA monitoring, the theme of the 4th MPA meeting. Monitoring experts will be invited to the workshop to train MPA staff. Small grants will be given after the workshop for monitoring activities within the six participating MPAs. SusGren has communicated with all the MPAs informing them of the Small Grants Programme component as part of the NFWF project and have requested that the MPA's begin constructing proposals for their projects

While planning the networking meeting in Mustique, a number of preliminary activities occurred, including skype calls with the project consultant Emma Doyle. During these skype sessions a lot was discussed to do with the SGP component and how best to administer the funds. One of the recommendations included the hiring of a Monitoring Coordinator with funding from the Eastern Caribbean Marine Managed Area Network (ECMMANN) - SVG programme who would manage the SGP. Also, during the meeting the structure of the SG was determined, where the meeting agreed that the grants will be used to establish permanent monitoring sites in all participating MPAs and produce annual report score cards. .

Implementation Phase:

All small grants activities had been completed and all reports were submitted by late 2015.

- **South Coast Marine Conservation Area**

- **Marine Data Collection (AGRR Protocol)** - The St. Vincent National Parks, Beaches and Rivers Authority, Fisheries Division and Coast Guard took part in marine data collection activities with Sustainable Grenadines Inc. on November 19th and 20th to assess the condition of two coral reef areas in the South Coast Marine Conservation Area. Spearheaded by the National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority, this data collection effort aimed to add to the information collected during monitoring efforts carried out in early October 2014 by a trans-boundary team of park rangers. The trans-boundary team (assembled by the Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas (GNMPA) for a reef monitoring expedition throughout the Grenadines) collected information from Indian Bay, at the western extremity of the SCMCA. This subsequent effort assessed two additional reefs: one near Young Island, at a coastal midpoint of the park, and another in Blue Lagoon, at the eastern extremity. These sites were selected in order to capture a more holistic view of the condition of reefs throughout the SCMCA.
- **Water Quality Monitoring Capacity Building** - R.O.S.E. Environmental Ltd. were the suppliers of the equipment, and were also able to facilitate the stakeholders of the South Coast Marine Conservation Area with training in the use of the water quality equipment. Ms. Shanta Ramkissoon was the representative of R.O.S.E who came to St. Vincent to impart the training to the relevant agencies. Following the introductions and salutations, a brief synopsis of both meters was provided. The training commenced with a PowerPoint Presentation on the LaMotte SMART 3 Colorimeter. Following this the YSI ProPlus Meter was introduced and a hands-on demonstration of the use, operations, functions and calibration procedure was covered in tandem with the PowerPoint Presentations. Both meters were then taken to Indian Bay for a practical demonstration in the field. Each participant was required to contribute and interact with the equipment during the training. At the end of the day certificates were distributed to all persons who participated in the training. All objectives/indicators of success were considered to have been met.

- **Tobago Cays Marine Park**

- The Tobago Cays Marine Park used their small grants funds to undertake sea turtle monitoring with assistance from project consultant and WIDECAS representative Emma Doyle. This effort added to annual monitoring data collected first in 2010 under the OECS Protected Areas and Associated Livelihoods Project, and since using other funding.

Data was collected on turtle shell dimensions, health, weight and tag number. Over 250 turtles have been tagged in the Tobago Cays Marine Park since the beginning of the program in 2010.

- **Sandy Island Oyster Bed Marine Protected Area**

- The Ministry of Carriacou and Petit Martinique Affairs, the government ministry responsible for the administration of Sandy Island, was assisted by partner organization Deefer Dive with all objectives. Deefer Dive was able to train two park staff members in PADI Open Water Scuba, and (upon submission of a purchase order) procured SCUBA gear and uniforms from a United States supplier.

- **Grenada Marine Protected Areas**

- **Reef Monitoring Capacity Building** - The Rangers and other national staff of the Grenada Marine Protected were trained in the basis Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRR) methodology. The training took the form of a three days training workshop with both theoretical and practical components. The theoretical component of the training provided the participants with a better understanding of what & why we monitor coral reef along with species identification (i.e. coral, fish and mobile invertebrates). The practical component of the training included the production of monitoring equipment (e.g. measuring poles, transect lines, etc.). Participants also participated in on-land mock surveys along with in-water calibration exercises. Following the training sessions, two permanent monitoring sites were established one at each of the MPAs (i.e. Woburn Clarks Court MPA and Moliniere-Beausejour MPA) where baseline data for the sites was collected. The data was collected and entered into the requisite forms and submitted to AGGRA Headquarters for preliminary analysis and storage in the regional database.
- **Beach Profiling Capacity Building** - The beach profiling training for MPA staff was executed as a one day workshop with the first half of the day dedicated to the theoretical concept of beach monitoring and beach dynamics. The second half of the day was utilized to familiarize participants with the utilization of the beach monitoring gear (e.g. abney level) and protocol to conduct a series of mock monitoring exercises. Once the training was completed the baseline was conducted at three (i.e. Beauséjour Bay, Flamingo Bay & Dragons Bay) within the MBMPA. Three permanent monitoring stations (i.e. one on either end of the beach and one in the middle of the beach) were established along each beach making for a total of nine monitoring stations within the MBMPA. Monitoring would be conducted at each of these sites on a monthly basis and the data would be entered into a dedicated Beach profiling database.

2.7 Monitoring and Evaluation

Activity Rationale: One of the results of the initial SusGren NFWF project was the development of a monitoring schedule for each network MPA, and commitment on their part to conduct this monitoring; however, MPAs still need further support to ensure that this monitoring is completed on schedule, and accurately. This project will ensure that monitoring is conducted on time and according to the prescribed protocol. Network meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss issues, and develop future work plans. The project team will also be available to provide advice and assistance to MPA staff. SusGren will also coordinate the annual results from monitoring and evaluation efforts into a single comprehensive report.

Relevant Metrics:

- Implementation of socioeconomic monitoring- Number of monitoring sessions at each MPA. One monitoring session during 2014 and 1 during 2015. To be undertaken by CERMES, with support and coordination by SusGren and the Grenadines Network of MPAs. (optional)
- Implementation of socioeconomic monitoring- Number of MPAs conducting monitoring. Increase from 4 current to 6 Network MPAs conducting socioeconomic monitoring.
- Implementation of biophysical monitoring
 - Number of MPAs conducting monitoring Increase from 4 current Network MPAs to 6 MPAs participating
 - # biophysical reef monitoring sessions (24; 1*6 in 2013, 2*6 in 2014, 1*6 in 2015)

Outcomes:

Socioeconomic monitoring in collaboration with CERMES occurred in Tobago Cays Marine Park, South Coast Marine Managed Area on the St. Vincent side, and in Sandy Island/Oyster Bed MPA and Moliniere Beausejour MPA on the Grenada side in 2013. It is recommended to repeat SocMon every three to five years, rendering annual efforts somewhat redundant. However, the GNMPA is preparing to have SocMon conducted in all MPAs in 2016-2017. SocMon information has been used to identify management gaps. The

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number of reef monitoring sessions (AGRRA Protocol) was fourteen in 2014 and three in 2015, with an additional 10 conducted in Tobago Cays Marine Park under another project. All six MPAs have now been monitored within the past two years.

- *Establishment of Permanent Monitoring Sites in Grenadines Network of MPAs*

The first permanent monitoring site was established at the Mustique Marine Conservation Area (MMCA) during a field activity in the 2014 MPA Network Meeting. The other MPAs agreed to establish similar permanent monitoring sites during the course of the year June 2014-2015. All six MPAs also agreed and gave their commitment to participate/continue in annual biophysical and socioeconomic monitoring programs.

In September 2014, SusGren sponsored an AGRRA coral reef monitoring training workshop, where six park members representing the six marine protected areas took part in the training and field expedition. Following the training, the team, along with other scientists, traveled to each other's parks to help establish their long-term monitoring site and complete underwater surveying work. It was the first Grenadines-wide field work expedition by and for members of the Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas. The goal was to strengthen coral reef management and coordination of the GNMPA and to provide an initial baseline to help the managers track the state of the reef over time as well as their progress in protecting their reefs.

3. Lessons Learned

Describe the key lessons learned from this project, such as the least and most effective conservation practices or notable aspects of the project's methods, monitoring, or results. How could other conservation organizations adapt similar strategies to build upon some of these key lessons about what worked best and what did not?

Communication

SusGren found that communication via only method (e.g. skype calls, phone calls, email) was sometimes ineffective at effectively achieving consensus between the implementing agencies and consultants. Multiple media (e.g. Skype calls followed by meeting minutes and/or explicit terms of reference for work) were best able to reinforce ideas communicated in discussions.

Geography

SusGren and the TCMP are based on Union Island in the Grenadines, while the other MPAs are based on other islands across the Grenada Bank. The geographic distance makes collaboration somewhat more difficult, but is currently mitigated by regular Skype calls and constant email and telephone contact. The distance adds a significant cost in the form of travel and accommodation cost for meetings and collaborative activities.

Timing of Disbursement of Funds

The delay in project disbursement affected the project. We learned to pay attention to our request period for disbursement to ensure that disbursements arrive on time to ensure that we have monies on hand to implement activities when required.

Delegation of responsibility

The lead responsibility for coordination fell to SusGren. Varying levels of proactivity were experienced from partner organisations and consultants, with extensive follow-up being needed in some cases for reporting and even use of small grants funds within an acceptable time frame.

In-kind contributions

Many private and public sector organisations showed great interest in assisting Sustainable Grenadines and its partners with meeting the objectives of this project. Notable contributions include the donation of a 65-foot catamaran by Mr. Jean Marc Sailly of Wind and Sea Ltd, and various contributions (including accommodation) by the Mustique Company to the 4th Annual GNMPA meeting.

Scheduling of activities

Unfortunately, the implementation of activities was bottlenecked by the unavailability of human resources and finances (due to the standing disbursement schedule), causing delays until human resources and funding were available. In cases where activities are being merged with deliverables from other grants or the initiatives of other organizations, deviation from the proposed implementation dates also occurred. This actually resulted in SusGren requesting an extension to the project deadline to facilitate implementation of all activities.

4. Dissemination

Briefly identify any dissemination of project results and/or lessons learned to external audiences, such as the public or other conservation organizations. Specifically outline any management uptake and/or actions resulting from the project and describe the direct impacts of any capacity building activities.

Press Releases and Publications

- SusGren routinely releases information to print and radio media houses after each of its activities.
- Reports of activity outcomes and lessons learned are disseminated to SusGren's board members as well as project partners, in-kind and financial contributors, and coordinating agencies, particularly those which provided co-funding for activities which achieved objectives of this grant e.g. ECMMAN Project coordinating agencies (The Nature Conservancy, UN Specially Protected Areas for Wildlife Regional Activity Centre, Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management Network)
- **"The Grenadines Network of Marine Protected Areas; an example of civil society leadership in trans-boundary conservation"**, published in the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas publication "Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines No. 23 - Transboundary Conservation: A systematic and integrated approach"

Management Actions

- Expansion of the Grenadines Network of MPAs from four to six MPAs to improve regional communication and resource pooling for capacity building and management of natural resources across the Grenada Bank.
- Increase in regional exchanges and training attachments for capacity building.
- Adoption of regional monitoring framework for biophysical, socioeconomic and administrative indicators by member MPAs of the Grenadines Network
- Adoption of the AGRRA protocol as standard for biophysical monitoring across the Grenada Bank by members of the Grenadines Network
- Hiring of a Monitoring Coordinator to manage small grants programs for SusGren and oversee implementation of monitoring framework.
- Recruitment of interns to SusGren to provide additional capacity for implementation of project objectives.
- Implementation of first ever Transboundary Reef Monitoring expedition with a team of representatives from each MPA of the Grenada Bank, and donation of a vessel by Wind and Sea Ltd.
- Implementation of small grants activities to raise capacity and conduct monitoring activities, filling vital capacity and information gaps for Grenadines Network MPAs.

Direct Impacts of Capacity Building Activities

- All six MPAs benefitted from capacity building through the Grenadines Network of MPAs for
 - Mangrove species identification and ecosystem significance
 - Lionfish handling and preparation
 - MPA Enforcement
 - Biophysical monitoring using the AGRRA protocol
 - Utilisation of the media for communication and outreach
 - The provision of gears/supplies to include e.g. dive gears, lionfish safety gears and AGRRA and beach profiling supplies to continue their work within their various MPA's
 - As a result of the Mustique mooring installation exchange visit, TCMP was able to install a new complement of improved moorings within their park. SIOBMPA has drafted mooring maintenance SOPs, and the Grenada MPAs have received a number of recommendations for the improvement of their mooring operations.
 - Establishment and baseline monitoring of permanent biophysical monitoring sites in each of the six MPAs of the Grenadines Network of MPAs. Reporting on monitoring findings and innovative communications of findings and implications to MPA managers for decision making.
 - Regional improvement of enforcement capacity as a result of multiple enforcement training workshops and exercises. Areas of exposure include interacting with the public, detecting violations, proper report writing, surveillance techniques, vessel boarding and search, safety at sea, evidence collection and case package preparation. South Coast Marine Conservation Area will be receiving recommendations for enforcement of marine park regulations for their park. TCMP will be receiving communication, enforcement and stakeholder compliance assessments and strategic documents.
 - Improvement of regional awareness of issues and adaptation strategies for Sargassum
 - PADI Scuba certification for two additional rangers at SIOBMPA
- The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

- Purchase of uniforms for three rangers at SIOBMPA, improving ranger visibility
- AGRRA training for all staff of Grenada MPAs, making them independently capable of carrying out surveys
- Beach profiling capacity building for Grenada MPAs, allowing them to monitor beach profiles on a monthly basis. This information has a myriad of uses, including the assessment of climate impacts on the MPAs.

5. Project Documents

Include in your final programmatic report, via the Uploads section of this task, the following:

- 2-10 representative photos from the project. Photos need to have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. For each uploaded photo, provide a photo credit and brief description below;
- Report publications, Power Point (or other) presentations, GIS data, brochures, videos, outreach tools, press releases, media coverage;
- Any project deliverables per the terms of your grant agreement.

POSTING OF FINAL REPORT: *This report and attached project documents may be shared by the Foundation and any Funding Source for the Project via their respective websites. In the event that the Recipient intends to claim that its final report or project documents contains material that does not have to be posted on such websites because it is protected from disclosure by statutory or regulatory provisions, the Recipient shall clearly mark all such potentially protected materials as "PROTECTED" and provide an explanation and complete citation to the statutory or regulatory source for such protection.*